

# **Programme Handbook**

**Academic Year: 2025-26**

## **BSc Accounting and Finance**

**(3 Year, 2 Year Accelerated, 1 Year  
Top-up)**

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## Welcome

Welcome to the BSc Accounting and Finance courses offered by the School of Accounting and Finance at Bloomsbury Institute, in partnership with Birkbeck, University of London.

This Programme Handbook provides key information about the course that you are following. For all other non-course specific information, please refer to your Student Handbook (the Appendix of this handbook provides the Index of your Student Handbook).

We wish you all the very best with your studies.

**Dr Joan O'Mahony**  
Principal

**Dr Mubashir Qurashi**  
Course Leader for BSc Accounting and  
Finance

**Note:** this Programme Handbook is available in electronic form from Canvas, your virtual learning environment.

## 1. Key Information

<b>Course:</b>	Accounting and Finance	<b>Qualification(s)</b>	BSc Accounting and Finance
<b>Duration:</b>	Three Years (full-time) Two Years (full-time, accelerated) One Year Top-up (full-time)	<b>Campus:</b>	Bloomsbury
<b>Start Dates:</b>	October 2025, Top-up has additional start dates in February and June	<b>Awarding Body:</b>	Birkbeck, University of London

## 2. Overview

Bloomsbury Institute delivers the BSc Accounting and Finance courses, which lead to awards conferred by Birkbeck, University of London. Students who complete the courses will graduate from Birkbeck, University of London, alongside students who studied on the University's campus.

Most classes take place at Birkbeck College (Bloomsbury campus), with occasional classes being held in our Bedford Square building. Students are provided with access to Bloomsbury Online Library and Birkbeck, University of London library resources.

The Accounting and Finance degree offers students a range of options. The programme, in particular, will allow the students, if they wish, to undertake the optional accounting internship work placement, which is not available to international sponsored students. This will provide the students with an invaluable opportunity to develop key employability skills sought after by employers in the Accounting and Finance Sector. It is also an opportunity to put into practice the academic learning from the first two/three years of the programme, and, very importantly, to develop professional networks.

The Accounting and Finance programme will not only lead to the award of an academic degree but also provide graduates with the opportunity to obtain a professional qualification in Accountancy and Finance. The programme is specifically designed to align academic provision with professional body standards and aims to secure exemptions from various professional bodies (subject to approval). In particular, the programme is structured to enable the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) to grant exemptions to Bloomsbury Institute London students upon graduation from all nine examinations at what they (the ACCA) term the Applied Knowledge and Applied Skills levels. This will leave the students with an exam at the Strategic Professional level for which there are no exemptions. Our students can become chartered accountants within a few years of graduation, depending on individual commitment.

The programme is also designed to enable the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA) to grant exemptions to students, upon graduation, from the Certificate and Operational levels. This will enable the students to start their professional exams at the Management Level. The students could become chartered management accountants within a few years of graduation, depending on individual commitment.

### 3. Academic Regulations

The Bloomsbury Institute delivers your programme and leads to an award from Birkbeck, University of London. This means that the Academic Regulations which apply to you throughout your studies are those of Birkbeck, University of London.

These regulations set out the rules for assessment, progression, reassessment, and the classification of awards, and ensure that standards are applied fairly and consistently. While this handbook summarises key programme information, the formal regulations of the awarding partner take precedence in all cases. Students are responsible for familiarising themselves with the regulations that apply to their course and for complying with them throughout their studies.

The Regulations are available at:

<https://www.bbk.ac.uk/documents/common-award-scheme-regulations-25-26.pdf>

### 4. Programme Specification

A summary of the main features of the programme is contained in the 'Programme Specification BSc Accounting and Finance'

The Programme Specification includes information on the following:

- Admissions Requirements
- The educational aims of the Programme
- Distinctive Features
- Course Structure
- The subject-specific knowledge and skills (i.e. the learning outcomes) that a student will demonstrate achievement of through formal assessment
- The transferable skills that a student will have developed (with an indication of those skills that a student will demonstrate achievement of through formal assessment)
- The teaching, learning and assessment methods and strategies
- Professional body requirements
- Academic Regulations and course management
- Support for students and their learning
- Career and progression opportunities
- Methods for evaluating and enhancing the quality and standards of teaching and learning
- Indicators of quality and standards

The Programme Specification is published within the Programme area of Canvas, your virtual learning environment.

## 4.1 Educational aims of the programme

An Accounting and Finance degree aims to develop students' understanding of accounting and finance within their wider socioeconomic context, including its role in responsible governance, assurance and audit. It provides a foundation for diverse careers while fostering ethical, responsible professionals. Beyond profit and capital measurement, accounting education should address accountability for sustainability, welfare, and broader social, environmental and political considerations. It should reflect accounting's role in providing information and control across a wide range of organisations — including public, private and third-sector bodies — and recognise the needs of diverse stakeholders. The degree should also engage with foundational and contemporary research and debate in accounting and accountability.

The main aims of this programme are to:

- Provide students with the opportunity to pursue a first-degree qualification focused on Accounting and Finance.
- Provide an academically challenging and practically relevant education in accounting and finance, which also secures some exemptions from the examinations of leading professional bodies such as ACCA and CIMA.
- Develop students' understanding of how accounting and finance are shaped by and impact legal, ethical, social, political, environmental, and economic norms.
- Provide students with the essential, transferable skills required to develop successful careers in financial practice or business in a changing economic world.
- Equip students with the accounting and finance, analytical and practical skills essential for aiding decision making and teamwork in different cultural and business contexts.
- Develop students' critical understanding of ethical principles and practice, and their ability to readily identify ethical questions and dilemmas and supply appropriate solutions, thus equipping graduates to become effective global citizens.
- Create and sustain a supportive working environment that respects social and cultural diversity and ensures equality of opportunity in selection, learning, assessment, and support.

## 4.2 Learning outcomes

At the end of the Programme, you will be able to:

- Demonstrate a critical understanding of the strategic aspects of business and the implications for operational, financial and tax effectiveness.
- Demonstrate critical investigative skills and discrimination in the selection of sources particularly in relation to data and other sensitive information.
- Demonstrate critical understanding of the application of ethical behaviour required of a financial practitioner in financial reporting and business practice.
- Critically and sensitively manage a statutory audit or other assurance assignment.
- Demonstrate appropriate sound and independent reasoning to devise solutions to problems affecting organisations in the areas of accounting and finance.

- Demonstrate analytical ability to introduce, argue and convey financial decisions and recommendations in a company.
- Demonstrate to a high level an understanding of the necessity for continuing professional development and self-directed life-long learning, and
- Communicate effectively, succinctly and accurately in presenting and defending your view in a variety of formats, and engage effectively in professional dialogue.

## 5. Modules and Course Structure

A module is set at one of three levels: Levels 4-6, Level 4 being the least complex and Level 6 being the most complex. The learning outcomes demonstrate the module level.

The details of each module are set out in the Module Specifications, which are published within the module areas of the VLE.

Upon successful completion of a module, you are awarded the specified number of credits at the specified level.

The Course Structure sets out the modules that you will take as part of your course:

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Core/Option
<b>Full-time – 3 years</b>				
<b>Year 1</b>				
4	BUS4A7	Fundamentals of Business Environment and Economics	30	Core
4	BUS4A8	Financial Accounting – Theory and Practice	30	Core
4	BUS4A9	Management Accounting	30	Core
4	BUS4A10	Business and Corporate Law	30	Core
<b>Year 2</b>				
5	BUS5A26	Quantitative Techniques and Computer Applications in Accounting	30	Core
5	BUS5A27	Financial Reporting and Practice	30	Core
5	BUS5A28	Principles and Practice of Taxation	30	Core
5	BUS5A29	Financial Management	30	Core
<b>Year 3</b>				
6	BUS6A14	Performance Management and Control	30	Core
6	BUS6A13	Auditing in Context	30	Core
6	BUS6A15 BUS6A16	EITHER International Finance <b>or</b> Mergers and Acquisitions	30	Option
6		Option from list below	30	Option
<b>Full-time – 2 years accelerated</b>				
<b>Year 1</b>				
4	BUS4A7	Fundamentals of Business Environment and Economics	30	Core
4	BUS4A8	Financial Accounting – Theory and Practice	30	Core
4	BUS4A9	Management Accounting	30	Core
4	BUS4A10	Business and Corporate Law	30	Core
5	BUS5A28	Principles and Practice of Taxation	30	Core

5	BUS5A29	Financial Management	30	Core
<b>Year 2</b>				
5	BUS5A26	Quantitative Techniques and Computer Applications in Accounting	30	Core
5	BUS5A27	Financial Reporting and Practice	30	Core
6	BUS6A14	Performance Management and Control	30	Core
6	BUS6A13	Auditing in Context	30	Core
6	BUS6A15 BUS6A16	EITHER International Finance <b>or</b> Mergers and Acquisitions	30	Option
6		Option from list below	30	Option
<b>Full-time – 1 year top-up</b>				
6	BUS6A13	Auditing in Context	30	Core
6	BUS6A14TBC	Performance Management and Control	30	Core
6	BUS6A15 BUS6A16	EITHER International Finance <b>or</b> Mergers and Acquisitions	30	Option
6		Option from list below	30	Option
<b>Level 6 options</b>				
6	BUS6A15	International Finance	30	Option
6	BUS6A16	Mergers and Acquisitions	30	Option
6	BUS6A18	Business Ethics and Corporate Governance	30	Option
6	BUS6A17	Accounting and Finance Research Project	30	Option
6	BUS6A21	Independent Learning Project	30	Option
6	BUS6A19	Accounting and/or Finance Internship <i>(note available to international sponsored students)</i>	30	Option

Core: The module must be taken and passed by the student

Option: The student can choose to take this module

## 6. Module descriptions

### 6.1 Level 4

#### ***Fundamentals of Business Environment and Economics***

This module explores the fundamentals of the modern business and economic environment in which organisations operate, so you can appreciate the challenges they may face. We'll cover the various types of business organisations, their structures and functions, key stakeholders, governance, external environmental factors, organisational culture, and ethical behaviours. You'll learn how accounting and reporting systems play a crucial role in solving real business problems and uncover IT-related solutions for efficient management and internal control.

The concepts and analytical tools covered in this module not only provide a thorough understanding of economic issues but also stimulate your reasoning and conceptual awareness.

## ***Financial Accounting – Theory and Practice***

This module provides a comprehensive understanding of fundamental concepts and theories that you can apply to a range of financial accounting matters. You'll learn the regulatory and conceptual framework that underpins financial accounting, as well as the techniques and skills required to prepare essential financial statements. We'll focus on three key statements:

- The statement of comprehensive income
- The statement of financial position
- and the statement of cash flow.

By the end of this module, you will possess the tools needed to analyse and interpret financial information accurately and have a solid foundation in financial accounting, enabling you to apply your skills to real-world scenarios and make informed decisions.

## ***Management Accounting***

In this module, we'll explore management accounting, providing you with a deep understanding of the role and importance of cost and management accounting techniques in modern business. You'll learn how to apply these techniques to support management in planning, measuring, controlling, and monitoring business performance in a variety of contexts.

We'll also consider the importance of cost determination, pricing, and volume measures for global organisations, and you'll gain insight into resource allocation and how to maximise benefits for the organisation. By the end of this module, you'll have the skills and knowledge you need to evaluate business performance and make informed decisions that drive success.

## ***Business and Corporate Law***

The principles of law and ethics frequently complicate business transactions and the operations of commercial entities. This module examines the fundamental principles underpinning financial law and governance, enabling you to understand the management, administration, and regulation of a company. How these issues affect directors' duties and company meetings and resolutions will also be considered, providing you with an understanding of the legal aspects of corporate governance.

## **6.2 Level 5**

### ***Quantitative Techniques and Computer Applications in Accounting***

This module will help you to develop expertise in applying quantitative techniques to the study and practice of accounting and finance. This module takes place in a practical operational context, where you can apply accounting techniques in a computerised environment using MS-Excel and Sage, which are commonly used by small and medium-sized organisations in the UK. You will also be able to critique the frameworks relating to the design and operation of an integrated accounting system.

### ***Financial Reporting and Practice***

You'll apply accounting standards and theoretical frameworks to prepare financial statements for entities, including groups, which conform to international accounting standards in the Financial Reporting and Practice module. You will critically discuss and apply conceptual and regulatory frameworks for financial reporting, prepare and present financial statements, account for business combinations, and critically analyse and interpret financial reports of businesses.

At the end of this module, you will be able to prepare consolidated financial statements of a group, consisting of subsidiaries and associated companies, after adjusting for fair value, unrealised profits, intra-group balances, pre- and post-acquisition, non-controlling interest, and goodwill in accordance with local and international standards.

## ***Principles and Practice of Taxation***

This module examines the UK taxation system's impact on individuals and businesses, as well as its conceptual and computational principles. Covering the principles of UK tax law and practice, including the overall function and purpose of taxation in a modern economy, the obligations of individuals and corporations and the computation of tax liabilities are all considered. You will also be introduced to tax planning and the taxation principles of VAT and IHT.

## ***Financial Management***

Financial management requires you to understand corporate financial strategy and analyse strategic financial information to make financial decisions and carry out core finance functions. This module will empower you to understand financial decisions in the context of corporate businesses' tactical need to survive and to dissect the four key financial management decisions: investing, financing, asset management, and dividend policy.

## **6.3 Level 6**

There are two core modules – Auditing in Context and Performance Management and Control. You will also complete two optional modules.

The optional modules are International Finance, Mergers and Acquisitions, Business Ethics and Corporate Governance, Accounting and Finance internship, Accounting and Finance Research Project and Independent Learning Module.

We offer one optional module per term, taking multiple factors into account. Students must meet the prerequisites to select a particular module. As a requirement, at least one of the following finance modules – International Finance or Mergers and Acquisitions must be selected. Accounting and Finance Internship is not available to international students.

### ***Auditing in Context***

How to conduct both internal and external audits that conform to professional regulatory frameworks and the usefulness of such audits to society generally are considered in this module. At the end of this module, you should be able to identify and describe the systems, processes and principles which seek to ensure that internal and external auditing promote good corporate governance and achieve corporate objectives.

### ***Performance Management and Control***

Businesses need to manage and be aware of environmental, behavioural, and organisational factors to navigate financial risks and ensure business survival, total quality management, and prosperity. Finance Managers' professional judgements can help businesses to achieve these goals by applying relevant knowledge and skills to strategic planning.

This module explores how to select and apply strategic managerial accounting techniques and approaches in different contexts, contributing to the evaluation of an organisation's performance and strategic development. In considering these approaches, you will learn how to prepare and interpret financial information for management, contribute to budgetary planning, monitoring, and control through effective communication, and improve functional performance within a global business organisation.

### ***International Finance***

There are a multitude of strategic factors that affect an international organisation's operations. Multinational financial management relies on your ability to assess the current global business environment and design appropriate international financial management strategies. You will develop a greater understanding of multinational financial arrangements in this module and, through the interpretation, use, and analysis of strategic financial information, examine the strategic reasons for the existence of multinationals.

## ***Mergers and Acquisitions***

Mergers and acquisitions demonstrate the amalgamation of many corporate finance concepts and techniques, such as valuation, with practical, active developments in the corporate business world. In this module, you will consider mergers and acquisitions from various angles: strategic, financial, and public policy. You will also identify and assess key factors that explain the success or failure of companies and gain practical insights through case studies into the workings of investment bankers, financial professionals, and management in the formulation of Financial Restructuring & Reorganisation Policy.

## ***Business Ethics and Corporate Governance***

Good corporate governance is essential to all national and multinational organisations in all sectors of the economy. This module introduces the typical requirements of senior executives in business organisations regarding governance and ethical issues. It enables you to analyse and evaluate the risks, both financial and non-financial, and the consequences of executive actions.

## ***Accounting and Finance Research Project***

This module provides you with an opportunity to pursue your individual interests in contemporary phenomena related to accounting and finance.

## ***Independent Learning Project***

Gain practical, real-life experience in the accounting and finance world. You'll have the chance to identify and tackle relevant, real-life accounting and finance issues and expand your knowledge and understanding through the practical application of financial theory on your Independent Learning Project.

You will be able to transfer your skills to real-life situations, critically evaluate, and apply your newfound knowledge to produce a project report. As you reflect on your work-based practice, you'll see how academic knowledge and understanding underpin everything you do.

## ***Internship***

Jumpstart your career and gain practical, real-life experience in the accounting and finance world. You'll have the chance to identify and tackle relevant, real-life accounting and finance issues and expand your knowledge and understanding through the practical application of financial theory in your internship module.

With your academic knowledge and understanding, you'll be able to transfer your skills to real-life situations, critically evaluate, and apply your newfound knowledge to produce a project report. As you reflect on your work-based practice, you'll see how academic knowledge and understanding underpin everything you do.

## ***Assessments***

We use oral assessments, presentations, simulations, and group and individual projects in addition to traditional assessment methods (examinations and coursework), so you can explore and express your abilities in different ways. Assessments are not just a way of assessing whether something has been learned, but an opportunity to develop skills that will equip you in your future life and career.

## 7. Module Leaders

The Module Leader for each module is as follows:

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Module Leader
4	BUS4A7	Fundamentals of Business Environment and Economics	
4	BUS4A8	Financial Accounting – Theory and Practice	
4	BUS4A9	Management Accounting	
4	BUS4A10	Business and Corporate Law	
5	BUS5A26	Quantitative Techniques and Computer Applications in Accounting	
5	BUS5A27	Financial Reporting and Practice	
5	BUS5A28	Principles and Practice of Taxation	
5	BUS5A29	Financial Management	
6	BUS6A14	Performance Management and Control	
6	BUS6A13	Auditing in Context	
6	BUS6A15	International Finance	
6	BUS6A16	Mergers and Acquisitions	
6	BUS6A15	International Finance	
6	BUS6A16	Mergers and Acquisitions	
6	BUS6A18	Business Ethics and Corporate Governance	
6	BUS6A17	Accounting and Finance Research Project	
6	BUS6A21	Independent Learning Project	
6	BUS6A19	Accounting and/or Finance Internship <i>(note available to international sponsored students)</i>	

## 8. Academic staff

Accounting and Finance staff are located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor of 7 Bedford Square. Their contact details are:

Name	Email	Position
Dr Nnamdi Obiosa	<a href="mailto:Nnamdi.Obiosa@bil.ac.uk">Nnamdi.Obiosa@bil.ac.uk</a>	Head of the School of Accounting & Finance
Dr Mubashir Qurashi	<a href="mailto:Mubashir.Qurashi@bil.ac.uk">Mubashir.Qurashi@bil.ac.uk</a>	Principal Lecturer & Course Leader
Dr Yue Fang	<a href="mailto:Yue.Fang@bil.ac.uk">Yue.Fang@bil.ac.uk</a>	Senior Lecturer in Accounting & Finance
John Adjei	<a href="mailto:John.Adjei@bil.ac.uk">John.Adjei@bil.ac.uk</a>	Senior Lecturer in Accounting & Finance
Olayinka Olugbile	<a href="mailto:Olayinka.Olugbile@bil.ac.uk">Olayinka.Olugbile@bil.ac.uk</a>	Lecturer in Accounting & Finance
Barry McFadzean	<a href="mailto:Barry.mcfadzean@bil.ac.uk">Barry.mcfadzean@bil.ac.uk</a>	Part-time Lecturer in Accounting & Finance
Saira Zia	<a href="mailto:Saira.Zia@bil.ac.uk">Saira.Zia@bil.ac.uk</a>	Part-time Lecturer in Accounting & Finance

## 9. Professional recognition and career opportunities

### 9.1 Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA)

The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants ([ACCA](#)) is one of the world's most prominent accountancy professional bodies. To become a member and a Chartered Certified Accountant, you must first pass the ACCA Qualification, which requires 13 papers and the Ethics and Professional Skills module.

Completing our [BSc Accounting & Finance course](#) exempts you from 9 of the required papers, so you will only need to complete 4 additional papers, as well as the Ethics and Professional Skills module, and 36 months of supervised experience, to become a Member and Chartered Certified Accountant.

### 9.2 Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA)

Our BSc Accounting & Finance degree course is accredited by the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA). CIMA is one of the leading professional bodies for management accountants with more than 597,000 members and students in 188 countries.

You can take advantage of CIMA online communities and free resources, including career support services such as interview tips, CV support, discussion forums, graduate vacancies, networking events and employment skills classes.

CIMA prepares people for a business career. It teaches skills in strategic advice, risk management, and key decision-making, with a syllabus designed to deliver a strong understanding of all aspects of business so members can contribute across many areas of the organisations they work in.

Graduates of our BSc Accounting and Finance course will be granted up to 8 exemptions from the 16 CIMA modules required to become a Chartered Management Accountant. Graduates from our MSc courses can be granted up to 11 exemptions from the 16 modules.

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